

Roxbury, May 30, 1875.

My dear Wendell:

You have had Frank, and are now having William, with Agnes and Charley (all preceded by Harry, Fanny, and their), and now I am thinking of making you a visit on my way to the Longwood Yearly Meeting. Will that be crowding you overmuch, or in any way inopportune? If so, apprise me of the fact, and I will alter my programme. I propose leaving in Saturday morning's express train for New York, reaching Orange that evening, and remaining with you until Tuesday morning — perhaps making an excursion on Monday to Paterson to see Mr. Benson, who is in a very feeble condition, and returning to the Park in the evening. Possibly I may conclude to leave home on Friday evening, via Fall River and New-



port; in which case you will probably find me at the office of The Nation on Saturday morning. My plan then would be to spend the day at Paterson, and in the evening find my way to Orange. Otherwise, expect me in the afternoon of Saturday by the express train from Boston, unless advised to the contrary.

On returning from Longwood, I shall try to pass two or three days in Philadelphia, in order to see a few friends, and then hurry homeward.

If you can spare Lloyd awhile, let him accompany me on my return. We all desire a visit from him. Phil. shall also have his turn.

Our niece, Anna Percy, will act as our housekeeper until Fanny returns. She has grown rapidly in the "good graces" of your mother, who now regards her as worthy of all commendation. We shall give Anna five dollars a week for her



service, which certainly will not be an arduous one, seeing that we have also a cook and a chambermaid. If she can do better elsewhere at any time, we shall be glad for her own sake. When we hired Miss Dow, we employed only a cook. Perhaps Anna will consent to do what Miss D. did, and so dispense with the chambermaid, in view of the fact that only three persons are to be cared for - your mother, Frank, and myself. I have not yet conferred with her on the subject. The helplessness of your mother has unavoidably necessitated a large increase of our household expenses, which otherwise would have been saved, as she was equal in efficiency to any two persons that ever came under our roof. It was largely in view of her crippled condition, in addition to the enfeebled state of my health at the time, that I felt willing to accept the "Testimonial" which was offered so opportunely to make smooth our declining years.



I most deeply sympathize with Mr. Godkin in the loss of his estimable wife. Such a bereavement is very sorrowful and sharp, and only the heart of the one that is left "knoweth its own bitterness." I thought of sending him some words of sympathy and condolence, but was restrained by the consideration that I could say nothing specially consolatory, seeing we have had no intimacy as friends.

A hurried visit from our beloved and venerated friend Lucretia Mott, the other day, took us by surprise, and afforded us very great pleasure. She told us that she weighs but seventy pounds, and she looked as though the time for her translation is not far distant.

I long to see you all again, and hope to find you all in good health. We shall look for William on Wednesday or Thursday, and expect a pleasing account of his visit.

Your loving Father